

## **How Skills Ontario welcomed thousands to its virtual event: 2021 Skills Ontario Competition & Career Exploration Showcase a success**

**Ontario (May 13, 2021)** – Today, Skills Ontario celebrated the success of the competitors from yesterday's Virtual Skills Ontario Competition and Career Exploration Showcase through its Closing Ceremony, and awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals, as well as \$45,000 in monetary awards and scholarships.

The Virtual Skills Ontario Competition and Career Exploration Showcase welcomed thousands of attendees to explore skilled trade and technology careers. Along with its other programs, one of the many ways Skills Ontario encourages, celebrates, and supports current and future skilled professionals is through this annual event.

Spectators registered for free and were able to virtually travel the competition floor: they had opportunities to visit exhibitor booths, view skilled contests, participate in a scavenger hunt, and attend conferences, including the Young Women's Conference, the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Student Conference, and the Persons with Exceptionalities Conference.

This morning, the event wrapped with the Closing Ceremony, where the winners of the virtual contests were announced.

"As we are dedicated to empowering youth to explore careers in the skilled trades and technologies, the Skills Ontario team is proud that this event was such a success. Congratulations to all competitors!" says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. "Every year, we host our Skills Ontario Competition and Career Exploration Showcase, and delivering it virtually this year to ensure young people are still given unique opportunities to explore skilled trades and technologies was a meaningful and valuable experience for us all. We recognize and appreciate our partners – with their support, we can offer initiatives like these."

Skills Ontario has been delivering programs and events since 1989 and continues to reach youth and aim to inspire them to explore skilled trades and technologies. The organization has found great success through its programs and initiatives, and continues to deliver programs that connect education, experience, and employment to Ontarians.

### **About Skills Ontario**

Skills Ontario has been growing a portfolio of programs to inspire and engage youth since 1989, including presentations, career exploration events, competitions, summer camps, and Young Women's and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit workshops and conferences. To see how you can partner with Skills Ontario and help make a difference in the lives of Ontario youth, visit [skillsontario.com/get-involved](https://skillsontario.com/get-involved).

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